(ii) The subsides on domestic LPG and kerosene for public distribution have been reduced by making corrections in the consumer prices from time to time. The consumer prices of diesel are being fixed on *import parity* basis.

(iii) The pricing of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) has been decontrolled with effect from 1.4.2001.

(iv) Private and Joint Sector refineries have been permitted to import crude oil freely without import license for actual use in their own refineries.

(v) Import / export of furnace oil has been decanalized in July, 1998. Naphtha exports has also been decanalised in July, 1998. The exports of motor spirit (MS) high speed diesel (HSD) and aviation turbine fuel (ATF) have been decanalized effective October, 1999.

Re-appointment of contract employees in EIL

1801. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that Engineers India Ltd. (EIL) have decided in the year 2000 that contract engineers who have left EIL on account of completion of contract will be considered for 50 per cent of vacancies / requirment of Management trainees;

(b) if so, the details of contract in Employees considered for appointment after the above decision so far;

(c) the number of contract engineers who have been removed from service month-wise during the last two years; and

(d) the number of management trainees who have been recruited by EIL during the last two years and criterion adopted for selection of trainees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) EIL has decided that 50% of vacancies/requirements of Management Trainees will be filled on an annual basis from contract engineers working in the Company or who have left the services of the Company on account of completion of contract period/ foreclosure of contract and are meeting the selection criteria.

(b) The limited requirement in year 2001 was in Technical Directorate (Process Design & Development Division, etc.) requiring degree in Chemical Engineering. There was only one contract engineer with such qualification in the Company, who was called for written test / interview. However, he did not qualify the written test.

(c) The number of contract engineers released on foreclosure of their contract on account of tapering/completion of work at various project sites as per terms and conditions of their cotractual appointment, during the last two years (month-wise) is given in the statement (*see below*)

(d) The number of Management Trainees recruited by the Company during the last two years is as follows:

(i) Batch 2000	9
(ii) Batch 2001	Nil

The criteria adopted for selection of these Management Trainees was degree in Chemical Engineering (with atleast 70% marks in engineering) from premier Engineering Institutes i.e. Department of Chemical Engineering & Technology. Punjab University, Chandigarh, Thapar Institute of Engineering & Technology, Patiala and University of Roorkee. Selection was made on the basis of campus interviews by duly approved Selection Committees.

Statement

Number of contract engineers released on for closure of their contract during the last two years months wise

Period/month	Number of contract engineers
July, 1999 to October, 1999	Nil
November, 1999	1
December, 1999	1
January & February, 2000	Nil
March, 2000	1
April, 2000	1
May, 2000	9
June, 2000	2

Period/month	Number of contract engineers
July, 2000	15
August to December, 2000	Nil
January, 2001	6
February, 2001	7
March, 2001	37
April, 2001 to June, 2001	Nil
TOTAL:	80

(This does not include 49 contract engineers who resigned and left the Company on their own volition and 218 contract engineers released on completion of their contract / extended period of contract.)

Termination of the EIL staff

1802. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 73 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20th February, 2001 and state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to newspaper report captioned "EIL hell-bent on dismissing staff despite earthquake crisis" appeared in the Hindustan Times, New Delhi on 5th March, 2001;

(b) whether Government propose to hold an enquiry by the CBI for terminating the contract employees in EIL ignoring the recommendations of the High Powered Committee; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Services of contract engineers, who were recruited for specified period to meet the short terms requirement, came to an end on completion of contract period / extended period or foreclosure of contract as per terms and conditions of their appointment.

EIL has decided that 50% of vacancies / requirements of Management Trainees will be filled on an annual basis from contract engineers working in the Company or who have left the services of the Company on account of completion of contract period/foreclosure of contract and are meeting the selection criteria.